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- d) contacting the gp160 with an alkylating agent;
 - e) contacting the gp160 with an oxidizing agent;
 - f) contacting the gp160 with an ionic detergent, and
 - g) dialyzing the gp160 against a neutral detergent.

19. (New) A method of producing the trimer according to any one of claims 11 - 13, the method comprising:

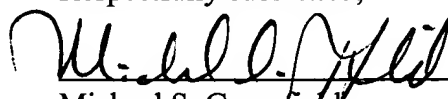
- a) expressing gp160 or fragment thereof;
- b) purifying the gp160;
- c) contacting the gp160 with an ionic detergent;
- d) contacting the gp160 with a reducing agent;
- e) contacting the gp160 with an oxidizing agent; and
- f) dialyzing the gp160 against a neutral detergent.

REMARKS

If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney as indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,


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